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S. C. STATE LIBRARY

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South Carolina State Library Board

STATE DOCUMENTS

NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

December 1959

29th Issue

GREENVILLE STEPS AHEAD

Progress is continuing in the move to form a new public library system in Greenville County comprised of the present city and county libraries.

In the past month, a series of meetings has been held to discuss the question. The city library board met with a committee of the county legislative delegation, the county library board met with the same delegation committee, and then committees appointed by the two boards and a third committee appointed by the city council met with the delegation committee. The four committees together resolved to request legal action to consolidate the libraries into one new library system to serve all of Greenville County and to ask increased and uniform support for the system.

At present the Greenville Public Library is actually two organizations operated as a unit. There are two boards and two sources of tax support, two mills from the city and one mill from the county. The total library budget is less than \$100,000. The millage recommended by the four committees will increase the library income to approximately \$200,000.

SPARTANBURG'S NEW BUILDING

Work is expected to start in early January on a \$560,000 Spartanburg County Library.

Bids for sale of library bonds were opened December 1. Construction bids will be received during December and actual work should get under way about 15 days later.

Plans have been announced for a proposed museum wing to the library. Spartanburg County Foundation has offered \$25,000 for the project.

An anonymous Spartan has offered \$5,000 to help equip the museum, provided Spartans put up a like amount.

County Historical Association is spearheading a drive to raise the \$5,000.

The museum will be of library-matching architecture and construction. It will have a 34 by 42-foot exhibition hall, a 15 by 15-foot lobby and a storage and work room. Entrance will be from the Otis Boulevard side and from the library building interior.

SUMMER 1960

The State Library Board is again offering a planned summer reading program to the public libraries of the state. The CAROLINA TRAILS reading club is designed to give emphasis to the heritage and resources of South Carolina. Quality rather than quantity of reading will be emphasized and the whole program will be conducted in balance with other summer activities of children.

The State Library Board will supply a procedure brochure on the club and essential supplies--reading record cards and certificates.

To undertake this reading program the library should have a fairly adequate collection of children's books. To qualify for a certificate each member must read ten books--five of his own choice and one from each of the following categories: 1. South Carolina; 2. Land and sky; 3. Waters; 4. Wildlife; 5. Trees and flowers.

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN PLANS FOR ACTION, 1960-1970

Delegates attending the November 18 meeting of the South Carolina Committee on Children and Youth heard a discussion of the state's report to the 1960 White House Conference. The report, based on surveys conducted in every county of the state, contained the facts and findings on which the program for the next ten years will be based. A panel of high school students, presented the following as priorities for action for the next 10 years:

EDUCATION: Increased expenditure per pupil, reduction in size of elementary classes; an equitable assessment of property for tax purposes.

HEALTH: Coordination of services for handicapped children; expansion of child health clinics and mental health clinics; organized effort for better health and welfare of mothers and children.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, COURTS AND LEGAL AID: Juvenile courts with qualified personnel to help and care for youths involved with the law.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE: Additional regional libraries to provide necessary services to children and youth.

RELIGIOUS AND MORAL VALUES: More leadership training courses, family life education, premarital counseling, aid to young people in developing a moral code.

RECREATION: A State Recreation Commission to advise and assist public and private local groups with their recreational needs.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Strengthening of laws affecting adoption, child labor and marriage; repeal of laws permitting deeding and indenture of children.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: State legislation to coincide with federal child labor laws; employment certificate for workers under 18; coordination of information of local and state agencies to provide better services to youth.

The State Library Board list, Books to Achieve Goals of 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth, and the complete survey report, Unlimited Opportunities Beckon South Carolina Youth, were distributed. Copies of the survey report are available from S. C. Committee on Children and Youth, P. O. Box 1108, Columbia, South Carolina.

S. C. NLW LEADERS

Mr. Charles W. Underwood, S. C. Public Relations Manager, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, has accepted the invitation of the S. C. Library Association to serve as State Chairman for National Library Week--1960.

Miss Frances B. Reid, Field Services Librarian, S. C. State Library Board, has been appointed the state's Executive Director.

STOCK MARKET FORUM

One hundred thirty-five persons turned out for a Stock Market Forum held in the Aiken County Public Library, a member of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library system, on Tuesday evening, November 17. Representatives of

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith discussed the outlook for the nation's economy and the stock market. The program, prepared by Merrill Lynch research analysts, was presented in three parts. The first reviewed the nation's economy and projected the business outlook for the next few months; the second analyzed individual industries and their prospects for the future; and the final part dealt with investments and told investors what activity could be expected in coming months.

The Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library in addition to sponsoring the forum distributed a list of current books designed to aid persons interested in business investments.

Miss Carrie Gene Ashley, Coordinator of Adult Services for the Regional Library, was in charge of all arrangements and introduced the program.

BOOK SELECTION POLICY

The following letter was sent recently to all public librarians by Miss Carrie Gene Ashley, Chairman of the Public Library Section, SCLA. Because of its importance, it is reprinted in full. Read it carefully and take action!

"On examining the Book Selection Policy prepared for the Public Library Section, you realize, I am certain, its value and effectiveness. Continual referral to this statement will clarify and help put back into perspective the confused state that so often accompanies the necessity of making a limited selection from the abundance of material available. The statement is also valuable in interpretation of the matter to your library public whenever the occasion might arise. It was recommended that each library work out a written policy of its own in accordance with this statement. This individual policy would include specific rules, specific objectives and would define its scope. The committee realized the necessity of this in the light of the differences in size of libraries, in interests of borrowers, and in availability and responsibilities of other libraries in the community. The State Library Board would like to receive a copy of your policy, as soon as it is completed. Could you have this done by October 1960?

"Don't forget to get your news in for the South Carolina Librarian by January 25 at the latest! Please send to me at the above address. Any items sent later than this should go directly to Mr. Hucks, since February 1 is the absolute deadline."

CHANGES

Miss Gabrielle Austin, a former member of the Greenville Public Library staff, has rejoined that organization as head of the catalog department. She succeeds Mrs. Melvin D. Chase who has retired.

Miss Mary M. Yarboro, for many years librarian of the Mullins Public Library, resigned in October but will continue to serve the library as bookkeeper and consultant. Mrs. Charles B. Gasque, who has acted as assistant librarian for several months, has been promoted to the position of librarian.

Mrs. Georgie I. Adams, librarian of the Berkeley County Library has resigned effective December 31, 1959. Mrs. Adams, before coming to Berkeley in March 1958, was librarian of the Orangeburg County Free Library.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The University of Chicago has assigned to the Graduate Library School three cash fellowships and a number of full-tuition scholarships, to be awarded to applicants whose professional promise and financial need recommend them for special encouragement in their professional education.

According to the Dean of the Library School, Dr. Lester Asheim, in recent years the recommendations for these awards received from libraries have brought the school some of its best students.

Application forms and a copy of Announcements will be sent to any person recommended by a librarian. Applications for scholarship and fellowship assistance for the academic year 1960-61 must be returned to the University of Chicago not later than January 15, 1960.

If you know a prospective candidate for librarianship who needs assistance, be sure to let him know about this opportunity!

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

The 1st session of the 86th Congress has adjourned, which means that your Senators and Representatives can be more easily reached by those of you who have matters of interest to bring to their attention. While they are at home, why not write them or visit them to ask their support of:

1. H.R. 4595 which would permit libraries to mail unbound as well as bound periodicals at the special library rate.
2. S. 155 which has been passed by the Senate in an amended version and would make libraries eligible to receive donations of surplus personal property. The House of Representatives has not yet acted on the bill, nor on similar legislation introduced in the House.
3. H.R. 519, a House - passed bill to revise the laws relating to depository libraries. This is still pending in the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

You may be interested to know also that the House has passed a resolution authorizing preliminary plans for a third building for the Library of Congress. Maybe the Senate will not be equally interested in taking action on the matter.

LIBRARIANS ARE TALKING ABOUT

Library Publicity Clippings, P. O. Box 742, Santa Ana, California.

A library publicity agency which fill furnish each month easily adaptable newspaper features and fillers, radio-TV spots, photographs of two successful displays and a publicity newsletter. Subscription rates are reasonable:

Budget under \$50,000--\$8 per year

Budget \$50,000--\$75,000--\$10 per year

Budget over \$75,000--\$12 per year

Samples will be sent on request and an eight-months trial subscription is available for \$7.00.

Mabel Montgomery. Bud & Samson the Goat. Vantage press, c1959. \$2.00.

A book for 6-10 year-olds, by a Marion, S. C., author.

"Another 'Study Hall' Solution." Library Journal, December 1, 1959, pp.3648-50.

Are teen-agers overrunning your library, especially at night, using your chairs but not your books, table-hopping, making dates or trying to, talking, giggling, and promenading? Then be sure to read this account of one library's solution.

Four scenic plates of old University of S. C. buildings, free on request. Write to Mr. David E. Abeel, Director of Public Relations, University of South Carolina, Columbia 1, S. C.

MENTAL HEALTH MATERIALS

The following are available free through your local Mental Health Association Chapter. If there is no chapter in your town or county, write instead to Education Committee, South Carolina Mental Health Association, 3000 Devine Street, Columbia, S. C.

Mental Health Kit #1.

Material on Normal Growth and Development of Children

Mental Health Kit #2.

Material for Adults on Adjustment to the Normal Stress and Strain of Living

Mental Health Kit #3.

Materials on Mental Health and Mental Illness in S. C. and in the Nation.

If you do not already have one, write to the S. C. Mental Health Commission, Mental Health Education Unit, 2214 Bull Street, Columbia, S. C., for a copy of the 1959 catalog of films, filmstrips and transcriptions. This was described in the April 1959 issue of this Newsletter.

YOUR PROBLEMS
by
Anne Library

Anne Library gets so many more complaints than compliments that the letter below was a very happy change, one gratefully received.

Dear Anne:

Just want to recognize one of the many fine features of our State Library Board Newsletter. We have always been frustrated by the numerous notices of "free and inexpensive material" scattered here and there over the pages of library magazines we are never equipped to order when we read, and can't find when the ordering desire springs forth. By calling attention to them and to others we may not have the opportunity to see, the Newsletter has been the means of our actually getting some of these orders and requests in to the U. S. mail!

Dear Anne:

The girl with whom I work constantly criticizes the way I call reserves for the library. She says I am rude and that she is surprised people don't slam the phone down when I call. I am fed up with her sniping and would like for you to tell her off for me.

This is the way I make the calls. After I dial the number and someone answers, I ask who is talking. When the person has told me, I know whether he is the one I am calling. If he is, I give him the message about the book he reserved. If not, I know then to ask for someone else.

How can anyone think this rude?

Righteously Indignant

Dear Righteously Indignant:

Righteous you may think yourself but right you are not. Your telephone procedure could hardly be worse.

Whenever you initiate a call, it is up to you to ask for the person to whom you want to speak, then identify yourself and state your business. If it should be necessary for you to know who answers the phone--and the occasions will be rare--tell him who you are and why you are calling, and only then ask who he is.

I am surprised that your librarian has not corrected your telephone manners. Much of any library's business is dependent on telephone contacts and a large number of people form their opinions of us and our libraries from our telephone personalities. A pleasant, courteous manner can open many doors for the library. Rudeness like yours can close them up tight.

SEEN HERE & THERE

The Lancaster County Library featuring a UN Day display.

The Lee County Library raided by thieves.

The Caroliniana Committee meeting on November 16 in the Caroliniana Library to begin the task of selecting the 100 essential books on South Carolina history. Attending were Mrs. Nan W. Carson, Rock Hill Public Library; Miss Katharine Jones, Greenville Public Library; J. H. Easterby, South Carolina Archives; Les Inabinet, Caroliniana Library; Miss Estellene P. Walker and Miss Dorothy Smith, State Library Board.

At the meeting of the State Committee on the Welfare of Children and Youth in Columbia on November 18, Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, Colleton County Memorial Library; Miss Elizabeth L. Porcher, Greenwood City and County Public Library; Miss Josephine Crouch and Mrs. Elizabeth Moore, Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library; Mrs. Vernon Brunson and Mrs. Lillian Howard, Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library; and Mrs. Angus Macaulay, member of the State Library Board.

The Colleton County Memorial Library marking Book Week with three story hours for children (divided by age groups), a display in the South Carolina Electric and Gas Co. window, and a talk to the Cottageville PTA by Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson. At this meeting Mrs. Thompson distributed copies of the reading lists, described in a recent issue of this Newsletter.

Lancaster County Library having an "open house" October 2 in honor of Mrs. E. A. Kelley of Kershaw whose paintings were on display in the library.

The Richland County Public Library, the Marlboro County Library, and the Greenwood City and County Public Library marking Book Week with many new books for children and young people.

The Great Falls Library, a branch of the Chester County Library, receiving fresh flower arrangements every week from the Great Falls Garden Club.

The Chester County Library's Halloween story hour attracting a near-capacity audience of 75 children. This was followed next week by a children's play, the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

The Laurens County Library proudly putting into service a new Gerstenslager bookmobile.

The Allendale Library and the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library headquarters in Allendale completely renovated.

The Fairfax Library, a branch of the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library, being repainted and having new shelves added. New lighting fixtures and draperies are also in the offing. Several trees have been removed from the yard of the library so that the lawn can be replanted soon with the assistance of local garden clubs.

The construction superintendent for the new Charleston County Free Library building reporting that work is ahead of schedule despite Hurricane Gracie and other rainy weather. The steel strike, he said, will not delay construction since all the library steel has been delivered.

The Richland County Public Library receiving an extensive selection of books relating to photography, a gift of the Columbia Photographic Society. It is the Society's intention to keep this section up to date and also to contribute subscriptions to monthly and annual photographic magazines for the reference room.

The Anderson County Library celebrating Book Week with many visits of local school classes to the main library in Anderson and to branches in Honea Path and Belton.

Mullins Enterprise editorializing that the Book Week "invitation to 'go exploring in books' is a challenge to everyone, regardless of age. As librarians issue the invitation, "the editorial continues, "we become aware of their challenge not only in this special week of weeks, but every week, as they direct people on the way to knowledge, wisdom and happiness."

Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library distributing book lists as well as new books for Children's Book Week. Each child visiting the library's many service points that week was given a folder in which to write names of books he especially wants to read.

Mrs. Georgie I. Adams, Berkeley County Librarian, giving book talks and telling stories during Book Week.

Young people's hobbies furnishing the theme of the Lancaster County Library's Book Week exhibit.